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**STATE OF DELAWARE
BOARD OF NURSING**

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PUBLIC MEETING NOTICE:	BOARD OF NURSING Hearing Minutes
DATE AND TIME:	Thursday, June 4, 2015 at 1:00 p.m.
PLACE:	Cannon Building, Second Floor Conference Room A 861 Silver Lake Blvd., Dover, DE 19904
Minutes Approved:	July 8, 2015

MEMBERS PRESENT

Robert Contino, President, RN Educator Member
Pamela Tyranski, Vice-President, RN Member
David Salati, RN Member
Harland Sanders, Jr., Public Member
Madelyn Nellius, Public Member
George Brown, Public Member
Nikki Lane, Public Member (left at 4pm)
Linda Darling, RN Member
Valerie Devereaux, RN Member

DIVISION STAFF/DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL PRESENT

David Mangler, Director, Division of Professional Regulation
Pamela Zickafoose, Executive Director, Delaware Board of Nursing
Meaghan Jerman, Administrative Specialist II
Jennifer Singh, Deputy Attorney General

MEMBERS ABSENT

Dianne Halpern, RN Member
Kathy Bradley, LPN Member
Raymond Moore, Public Member
Megan Williams, APN Member
Victoria Udealer, RN Member

ALSO PRESENT

Jennifer Guy, Wilcox and Fetzer
Matthew Boyer, Esq
Mary Akhimien, Esq
Ola Aliu, MD, MPH
Lucille Gambardella, Ph.D
Adeyemo Dania, LPN
Armstrong Millien
Austin Adeyemi

Dr. Contino called the hearing to order at 1:15 p.m. The Board introduced themselves to the public.

HEARING – LEADS SCHOOL OF TECHNOLOGY

See hearing minutes below.

HEARING MINUTES

HEARING – Leads School of Technology

PRESENT: Robert Contino, Harland Sanders, Madelyn Nellius, Linda Darling, George Brown, Pamela Tyranski, Nikki Lane, Valerie Devereaux, and David Salati,

RECUSED: None

EXCUSED: Kathy Bradley, Raymond Moore, Victoria Udealer, Megan Williams, Diane Halpern,

PURPOSE: Withdrawal of Board of Nursing Approval as an Approved Nursing Education Program

PRES IDING: Robert Contino, President

BOARD STAFF: Pamela Zickafoose, Executive Director
Meaghan Jerman, Administrative Specialist II

DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL FOR THE BOARD: Jennifer Singh, DAG

RESPONDENT: Leads School of Technology, Dr. Ola Aliu, President

COUNSEL FOR THE RESPONDENT: Matthew Boyer, Mary Akhimien

WITNESSES FOR THE STATE: None

WITNESSES FOR THE RESPONDENT: Ola Aliu, MD, MPH, Lucille Gambardella, Ph.D, Adeyemo Dania, LPN

COURT REPORTER PRESENT: Jennifer Guy, Wilcox and Fetzer

TIME STARTED: 1:15 p.m.

The court reporter took verbatim testimony. The Board members introduced themselves. Ms. Singh described the reason for the hearing and confirmed Leads School of Technology (Leads) was present. Mr. Matthew Boyer and Ms. Mary Akhimien represented Leads School of Technology and were introduced. Leads entered Hearing Exhibit #1 which consisted of a binder including the following documents: the 2011 Leads School of Technology Annual Report, the meeting minutes from the Board of Nursing Practice and Education Committee on December 14, 2011, the Board of Nursing clarification letter dated April 25, 2012, the meeting minutes from the Board of Nursing Practice and Education Committee on July 3, 2012, the Board of Nursing meeting minutes from July 11, 2012, the Leads 2012 Annual Report, the meeting minutes from the Board of Nursing Practice and Education Committee on December 14, 2012, the Letter to Leads from the Board of Nursing dated January 30, 2013, the site visit to Leads report on May 13, 2013, the meeting minutes from the Board of Nursing Practice and Education Committee on June 14, 2013, the 2013 Leads Annual Report, the meeting minutes from the Board of Nursing Practice and Education Committee on December 20, 2013, the Letter to Leads from the Board of Nursing dated January 13, 2014, the Leads 2014 Annual Report, Appendix A to Leads 2014 Annual Report/Strategic Plan to Increase NCLEX Pass Rate to 80% (updated as of December

2014), Appendix B to Leads 2014 Annual Report – Action Plan to Correct Annual Report Deficiencies (updated as of December 2014), the NCLEX Exam Report, results through September 30, 2014, the meeting minutes from the Board of Nursing Practice and Education Committee on December 16, 2014, the Board of Nursing's Letter to Leads regarding Approval Withdrawal dated April 9, 2015, the NCLEX Exam Report, results through March 31, 2015, the relevant Board of Nursing Rules and Regulations (using pre-2011 numbering system which was in effect at the time Leads began its application for approval in 2006), and 24 *Del. C. § 1919(b)* – Nursing educational programs.

Mr. Boyer provided an opening statement. Ola Aliu, MD, MPH, Leads' President, was called first to testify. Dr. Aliu was sworn in at 1:25 p.m. Mr. Boyer questioned Mr. Aliu regarding Leads' NCLEX pass rate. The Board questioned Dr. Aliu regarding his testimony.

The Board took a brief recess from 2:40 p.m. to 2:50 p.m.

Ms. Akhimien questioned Dr. Aliu regarding the Annual Reports submitted by Leads. The Board questioned Dr. Aliu regarding his testimony.

Mr. Boyer called Lucille Gambardella, Ph.D next to testify. Dr. Gambardella was sworn in at 3:45 pm. The Board questioned Dr. Gambardella regarding her testimony. Dr. Aliu was then recalled as a witness at 4:18 p.m. The Board questioned Dr. Aliu further regarding his testimony. The Board's questioning of Dr. Aliu concluded at 4:33 p.m.

Mr. Boyer then called Adeyemo Dania, LPN, a 2014 Leads' graduate, to testify. Mr. Dania was sworn in at 4:36 p.m. The Board questioned Mr. Dania regarding his testimony.

A brief recess was taken from 4:45 p.m. to 4:50 p.m.

The Board did not call any witnesses. Mr. Boyer provided closing remarks. The Board entered into deliberations at 4:55 p.m. and exited deliberations at 5:19 p.m. Ms. Nellius made a motion, seconded by Ms. Tyranski, that Leads did not present just cause to extend the time to correct its deficiencies and remain open. Thus, pursuant to 24 *Del C. § 1919(b)*, the Board must withdraw Leads School of Technology's Practical Nursing Program approved nursing program status. All currently enrolled students will be permitted to complete the program and Leads is to provide a list of these students' names to the Board of Nursing. Leads is not to enroll any additional students in the program from this date, June 4, 2015, forward. The motion passed by majority, with Dr. Contino abstaining.

The hearing concluded at 5:20 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 5:20 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Pamela C. Zickafoose, EdD, MSN, RN, NE-BC, CNE
Executive Director, Delaware Board of Nursing